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Adm. Souers, 80, Had Key Role in U.S. Spy Agency

ST. LOUIS (UPI) — Adm. Sidney W. Souers, who played a key role in the creation of what was to become the Central Intelligence Agency, died last night.

Adm. Souers, 80, entered St. Luke's Hospital Saturday with complications from a lengthy illness.

He was a former board chairman of General American Life Insurance Co. of America in St. Louis.

Adm. Souers became assistant chief of Naval intelligence during World War II and later deputy chief of Naval Intelligence. It brought him to a leading role as representative of then Navy Secretary James B. Forrestal in the creation of Central Intelligence. ✓

Adm. Souers was named the first director of Central Intelligence, which later was transformed into the Central Intelligence Agency.

At the request of President Harry S. Truman, Adm. Souers became executive secretary of the newly created National Security Council from 1947 to 1950. He became a consultant to Truman during the Korean war.

Adm. Souers, who left Washington in 1953, was a native of Dayton, Ohio. He was educated at Purdue and Miami Universities. He was active in several business ventures in New Orleans during the 1920s. In 1943 he married the former Sylvia Nettell. She is his only close survivor.